AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing centralized access to instrumentation count event information generated by simulation testing of hardware description language (HDL) simulation models, wherein said simulation testing is performed within a batch simulation farm by multiple simulation clients communicating with an instrumentation server, said method comprising:

for each of one or more of said HDL simulation models, generating an entity list that includes an identifier for each design entity within the simulation model that has at least one instantiated instrumentation count event; [[and]]

associating each of the design entity identifiers within said entity list with identifiers for one or more of said HDL simulation models in which the design entity is instantiated such that instrumentation count event information is accessible using design entity information;

simulating said HDL simulation model within a simulation client;

delivering an aggregate count event packet from said simulation client to said instrumentation server, wherein said aggregate count event packet includes count event data recorded during said simulation; and

within said instrumentation server, storing said count event data within cumulative count data storage files.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said entity list is generated during model build processing of said HDL simulation models prior to simulation of said HDL simulation models.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said associating each of the design entity identifiers within said entity list with identifiers for one or more of said HDL simulation models in which the design entity is instantiated comprises generating a translation table that indexes the design entity identifiers included in the entity lists in accordance with the HDL simulation models in which the design entities are instantiated.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[5]] 1, wherein said storing said count event data within cumulative count data storage files further comprises:

associating said count event data with a specified time period within a higher level count event directory; and

associating said count event data with a specified HDL simulation model within a lower level directory, wherein said lower level directory is subsumed by said higher level directory such that count event data can be queried first by time and second by HDL simulation model identity.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for providing centralized access to instrumentation count event information generated by simulation testing of hardware description language (HDL) simulation models, wherein said simulation testing is performed within a batch simulation farm by multiple simulation clients communicating with an instrumentation server, said system comprising:

processing means that, for each of one or more of said HDL simulation models, generates an entity list that includes an identifier for each design entity within said hardware simulation model that has at least one instantiated instrumentation count event; [[and]]

processing means for associating each of the design entity identifiers within said entity list with identifiers for one or more of said HDL simulation models in which the design entity is instantiated such that instrumentation count event information is accessible using design entity information;

processing means for simulating said HDL simulation model within a simulation client;

processing means for delivering an aggregate count event packet from said simulation client to said instrumentation server, wherein said aggregate count event packet includes count event data recorded during said simulation; and

processing means within said instrumentation server for storing said count event data within cumulative count data storage files.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, wherein said entity list is generated during model build processing of said HDL simulation models prior to simulation of said HDL simulation models.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, further comprising processing means for generating a translation table that indexes the design entity identifiers included in the entity lists in accordance with the HDL simulation models in which the design entities are instantiated.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[11]] 9, wherein said processing means for storing said count event data within cumulative count data storage files further comprises:

processing means for associating said count event data with a specified time period within a higher level count event directory; and

processing means for associating said count event data with a specified HDL simulation model within a lower level directory, wherein said lower level directory is subsumed by said higher level directory such that count event data can be queried first by time and second by HDL simulation model identity.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having encoded thereon computer-executable instructions for providing centralized access to instrumentation count event information generated by simulation testing of hardware description language (HDL) simulation models, wherein said simulation testing is performed within a batch simulation farm by multiple simulation clients communicating with an instrumentation server, said computer-executable instructions performing a method comprising:

for each of one or more of said HDL simulation models, generating an entity list that includes an identifier for each design entity within the simulation model that has at least one instantiated instrumentation count event; [[and]]

associating each of the design entity identifiers within said entity list with identifiers for one or more of said HDL simulation models in which the design entity is instantiated such that instrumentation count event information is accessible using design entity information;

simulating said HDL simulation model within a simulation client;

delivering an aggregate count event packet from said simulation client to said instrumentation server, wherein said aggregate count event packet includes count event data recorded during said simulation; and

within said instrumentation server, storing said count event data within cumulative count data storage files.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein said entity list is generated during model build processing of said HDL simulation models prior to simulation of said HDL simulation models.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein said associating each of the design entity identifiers within said entity list with identifiers for one or more of said HDL simulation models in which the design entity is instantiated comprises generating a translation table that indexes the design entity identifiers included in the entity lists in accordance with the HDL simulation models in which the design entities are instantiated.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim [[17]] 15, wherein said storing said count event data within cumulative count data storage files further comprises:

associating said count event data with a specified time period within a higher level count event directory; and

associating said count event data with a specified HDL simulation model within a lower level directory, wherein said lower level directory is subsumed by said higher level directory

such that count event data can be queried first by time and second by HDL simulation model identity.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said simulation testing is performed within a batch simulation farm by multiple simulation clients communicating with an instrumentation server, and wherein said generating an entity list is performed by one or more of said simulation clients.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said simulation testing is performed within a batch simulation farm by multiple simulation clients communicating with an instrumentation server, and wherein said associating design entity identifiers within said entity list with identifiers for one or more said HDL simulation models is performed by said instrumentation server.